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## Back-to-School Edition



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# THE BELL RINGER

Montgomery Bell Academy

4001 Harding Road Nashville, TN

August 22, 2016

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TWO TY'S: Ty Chandler '17 and Ty Allen '18 are poised to lead this year's Big Red football team to victory.

## New Team, Same Dream: Team 118 Poised for Success

By Palmer Thombs  
Assistant Sports Editor

The new turf has been laid and the sophomores' heads have been shaved. It's time for football on The Hill.

MBA's football season has just begun as the Big Red rolls into its 118th year. There are high hopes for this team with their balance of returning stars and players willing to step into larger roles. These returning players who took a large role

in last years state runnerup squad include seniors Ty Chandler, Micah Battle, Jake Evans, Montgomery Owen, Brett Starr, Cameron Wade, and Mac Lassing, among others. UT commit Chandler, the reigning Division II AA Mr. Football winner, accounted for 38 touchdowns last season and is looking to build upon that.

When asked how last season's state championship loss has served as motivation this preseason, Chandler stated, "It makes everyone want to go

back to state again even more. I feel like it just adds fuel to the fire."

For Chandler to have another successful season, other offensive players around him will need to step up. New starting quarterback, Ty Allen has been pushed by the coaches to become a leader of the team. He pointed out one of the summer lifts in particular where the offensive line coach, Travis Barclay, would whisper the exercise to the new quarterback and Allen's job was to let everybody in the

weight room know what exercise to do. Meanwhile, music was blasting at full volume through the weight room speakers and other coaches were yelling in order to simulate a chaotic game environment.

One of the main questions surrounding the Big Red this preseason is how they will replace their entire offensive line. Throughout the summer, strength coach

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# A Summer Recap of the 2016 Presidential Race

By Andrew Kaplan  
Managing Editor

As the summer winds down and the actual election date looms in the coming months, the head to Clinton-Trump matchup is finally taking shape in a solidified way for the first time.

The overriding theme of this election cycle is likeability, or lack thereof. Both Clinton and Trump are polling at record lows for favorability, trust, and how much people believe she or he will be responsible as president. The combination of past scandals, such as Clinton's email servers and Trump's egregious remarks and actions, have created a competition to determine which of the two major party candidates will be least hated.

Furthermore, Gary Johnson and Jill Stein throw a wrench into the mix. Both are candidates who do not pose a threat to win the presidency but may be able to swing the election by taking votes from either Trump or Clinton. Political analysts are uncertain yet which candidate will be damaged and which will benefit from third- and fourth-party candidates. This "x" factor is one of the few remaining variables that is difficult to calculate yet.

The summer has been full of mudslinging and name-calling from both the Democrats and Republicans, but major controversies are beginning to simmer down. The GOP National Convention and the Democratic National Convention both brought a variety of contentious issues to the forefront of the political discussion.

For example, the Democratic National Convention featured the parents of a slain American soldier

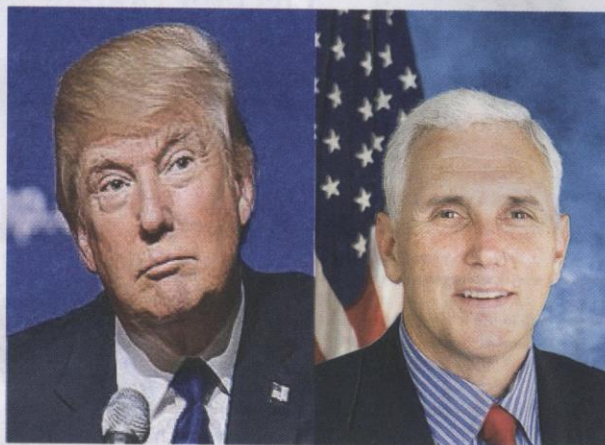
vehemently calling out Trump for his islamophobia and racist immigration policies driven by bigotry. Speeches such as this one have served to invigorate the Democratic base more, despite how unpopular Clinton is and will continue to be.

Presented with what Democrats, moderate Republicans, and many independents view as a lesser of two evils in Clinton, Trump is facing an uphill battle in the coming months to sway swing voters, despite his aggressive bullying tactics that have already been forwarded so far.

On the other hand, the Republican National Convention was successful in catalyzing the Trump-era conservatives' staunch support of the candidate through speeches from a number of different significant GOP figures, such as Paul Ryan. Overall, the convention is being remembered by Melania Trump's blatant plagiarism of a 2008 speech that Michelle Obama gave. Analysts noticed within minutes of the potential first lady's delivery of the speech that she had uttered more than five to six sentences that mirrored a speech Michelle Obama gave about her husband nearly verbatim.

Whether Melania intentionally plagiarized or it was the work of a speech writer, the perception of Melania as a terrible role model as a first lady is increasing, especially in the context of her former modelling career that is surfacing more and more lately in the media.

For anti-Trump advocates, there is something dismaying about the status quo media cycle in relation to how major interactions that Trump is involved with are perceived by



**LAUGHING STOCK?** Republican Presidential Candidate Donald Trump and running mate Mike Pence. A year ago, Donald Trump was hardly a serious candidate in the eyes of most voters. He's now become a powerful political force. (Photo credit: Wikipedia)

the general population. Because of Trump's early onslaught of egregious actions calling out women and minorities, the media and the population have become numb to Trump's actions because they are so frequent.

Therefore, when Trump kicks a Muslim group out of his rally with racial slurs, or engages in hypocritical family values, no one blinks an eye. But when Clinton slips up at one meeting with an advocacy group, everyone hears about it.

This double standard has both positive and negative implications for both conservatives and liberals. Certainly, Democrats seem to be held to a higher standard in terms of formality and etiquette, while more slides with Republicans. This situation leads to increased criticism of Democrats for minor discrepancies, but at the same time, automatically gives them more credibility in the eyes of numerous voters who are looking to the most professional, and sometimes the most established, form of leadership.

Once the election becomes less than one hundred days away, campaign tactics tend to shift in order to pander to voters of specific demographics or in swing states that could shape the outcome of the election. However, conventional tactics do not apply this election season because insults to Trump that would normally poke holes into a campaign have only served to bolster his popularity to this point in the election season, meaning that Clinton's team will need

to adapt to a paradigm of criticism and pandering that allows herself to be perceived as a more pragmatic option. She just has to convince enough Americans that a pragmatic option is what they want.

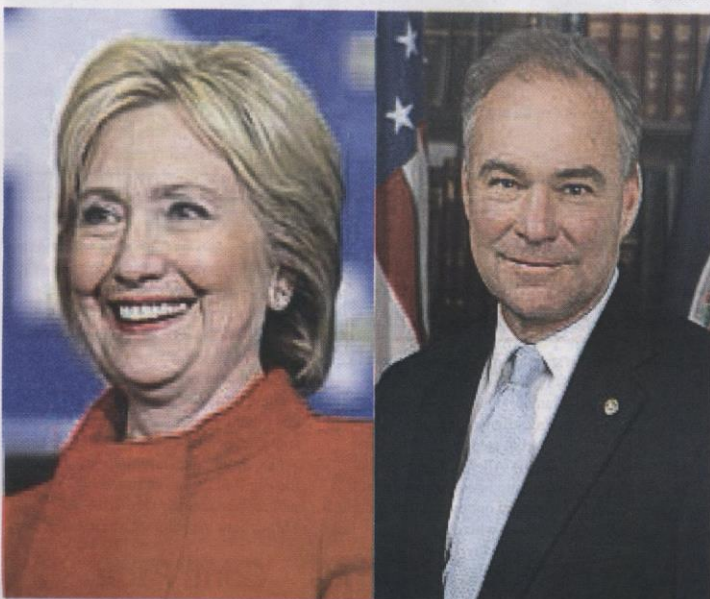
Therefore, the next set of moves that each campaign engages in will likely come from a different playbook if Trump and Clinton look to gain an edge. Current strategy has led to little more than a standstill, with Clinton leading by 8% at most and Trump winning by upwards of 4% at the extreme opposite end of that spectrum.

According to pundits such as Nate Silver, it is no more likely that Clinton will win by a ten-point margin than she will lose by a four-point margin, meaning that the election is effectively too close to predict at this point.

Who has not made up their mind yet, and why? These are the questions that both campaigns are seeking to address in order to capture swing voters and prevent themselves from being taken advantage of by a third party run. Gary Johnson presents a platform that is relatable to many Americans and is sometimes seen as better than two bad options, but most voters understand that their vote for Johnson will merely be a waste in terms of determining the actual outcome of the election.

Interestingly, many Johnson voters are individuals in states that are either slated heavily red or blue to the extent that the vote will not come down to a close margin in their given state. They would rather make a statement about being dissatisfied with the status quo organization of power and seek to disrupt the way that American regime change occurs.

As the final weeks of the election close in, these factors are the ones that will determine who comes out on top this fall.



**HISTORY IN THE MAKING:** Hillary Clinton, the first woman to be nominated as a presidential candidate for a major party, and her running mate, Tim Kaine. (Photo Credit: Wikipedia)



# United Kingdom Exits the European Stage

By Alex Bulgarino  
Staff Writer

The United Kingdom's exit from the European Union threatens to shake up the international geopolitical scene dramatically. Brexit, as it is being called, was determined by a referendum. The referendum was a vote held on Thursday, June 23, to decide whether the UK should leave or remain in the European Union. The motion to leave won by 4%.

Prime Minister of the United Kingdom, Theresa May, supported the argument for Britain to stay in the EU, but since becoming Prime Minister (after her fellow Remain campaigner David Cameron stepped down), she has said she will respect the will of the people and support the people's decision to separate from the EU. For the UK to leave the EU, it has to call upon an agreement called Article 50 of the Lisbon Treaty, which gives the two parties two years to agree the terms of the dissolution.

Prime Minister May has set up a new governmental department to be headed by veteran Conservative Member of Parliament (MP) David Davis to take responsibility for Brexit. Former Defense Secretary, Liam Fox, who also campaigned to leave the EU, has been given the job of heading up international trade department, and Boris Johnson, who was one of the leading voices for the "Leave" campaign, is foreign secretary. These men will play a central role in negotiations with the EU and will seek out new international agreements to

attempt to maintain the stability of international trade.

The government did not do any emergency planning for Brexit ahead of the referendum, and it is now hurrying to hire a team of able negotiators to manage the complex business of negotiating the withdrawal and ensuring UK gets the best possible deal.

Economically, there was a dramatic fall in the value of the pound against the dollar and in share prices in the immediate aftermath of the Brexit vote. Britain also lost its top AAA credit rating, meaning the cost of government borrowing will be higher. But a month after the vote, share prices in the UK recovered, with the FTSE 100 (London Stock Exchange Index) trading higher than before the referendum.

The broader FTSE 250 index, which includes more British-based businesses, remains about 1.5% lower than before the Brexit vote. A report by the Bank of England, published on July 20, suggested that the UK economy may have withstood the shock of the Brexit vote. Most of the data was gathered before the result, but intelligence gathered since the June 23 vote showed little evidence of slowing of activity despite an increase in uncertainty.

Prime Minister Theresa May has made it clear that the main message she has taken from the Leave vote is that the



**BREXIT:** After a nationwide referendum, a political action reminiscent of Napoleon's plebiscites (#MEHAP), the citizens of the United Kingdom have elected to leave the European Union, shocking the world in the process.

British people want to see immigration reduced.

The central immigration issue facing the UK revolves around whether other EU nations will grant the UK access to the singular market, while at the same time being allowed to restrict the rights of EU citizens to live and work in the UK. Prime Minister May wishes to get net migration down to a more sustainable level, which she defines as being below 100,000 people a year. According to Migration Watch, immigration is currently running at 330,000 a year, of which 184,000 are EU citizens and 188,000 are from outside the UK.

There are some potential benefits to leaving the EU for Britain. Many British

analysts feel that Britain was being held back by the EU, imposing too many rules on businesses and charging billions of pounds each year in membership fees for little in return.

Those campaigning for Britain to stay in the EU argued that Britain gets a big boost economically from its membership because the EU makes it easier for Britain to sell commodities to other countries in the EU. Many believe that Britain's status in the world will be damaged by Brexit, whereas the UK would be more secure staying in the 28 nation club, rather than going it alone. Due to this decision, the UK will endure its toughest time in decades economically and socially.

## What's Happening Across the Globe

By Philip Scholer  
Assistant Features Editor

Open your eyes, gents. There's more to the world than Trump and Pokemon-Go. Here's a quick recap of what's been going on.

**Turkey:** On July 15, a still unidentified faction of the Turkish military staged a coup against the government of President Recep Tayyip Erdogan. The leaders of this coup claimed to have taken control of the government in order to "reinstate constitutional order, human rights, and freedom" in Turkey.

Because of a lack of consensus among the military and President Erdogan's controlling the media during

**REVOLUTION!** A military coup occurred in Turkey earlier this summer.



the coup, ordering his supporters to oppose this insurgency through social media and news channels, this military insurgency failed.

Shortly after the coup was suppressed, Erdogan announced that Turkey would be in a three-month state of emergency during which Erdogan is allowed to bypass Parliament in instituting laws and mandates.

Erdogan, furthering his ongoing attempt at dictatorial rule in Turkey, has ordered the arrest of thousands of citizens, who were suspected to have links with the coup; fired tens of thousands of workers from teachers to bankers; and has constrained freedom of expression by jailing journalists for insulting

Erdogan or the voicing of any other opinion that is classified as "dangerous to national security."

The vital role Turkey plays in aiding in the fight against ISIS and containing the refugees trying to enter Europe makes it difficult for the U.S. and its allies in the Europe to pressure

Turkey to cease these anti-democratic practices.

On the other hand, Fethullah Gulen, whom Erdogan suspects of being the mastermind of this coup, argues that the violent extremism and sectarian violence, which the U.S. is fighting using the cooperation of the Turkish government, feeds on "frustration of those forced to live under dictators who cannot be challenged by peaceful protests."

**Germany and France:** This summer in a span of one week, there were four attacks on the German people. These attacks started July 18 when an Afghan refugee hurled an axe at people on a train and ended with the suicide bombing carried out by Syrian refugee outside a bar in Ansbach.

A few days before the attacks in Germany on France's national day (Bastille Day), Mohamed Lahouaiej Bouhlel, a 31-year-old Tunisian national living in France, drove a truck into a crowd of spectators in Nice and killed 84 people.

Many anti-terror experts attribute these attacks to the global reality of instant communication, which gives these attackers a burst of infamy and attention. Although some of the perpetrators claimed allegiance to the Islamic

State, also known as ISIS or ISIL, for a higher sense of purpose and attention, these attacks were not carried out by the Islamic State.

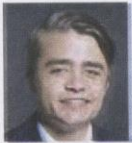
These attacks are called lone-wolf terrorist attacks. Because these attacks are not connected to one common group or idea, they make for a complicated and dividing response to terror in Germany, France, and throughout the rest of Europe.

The attitude towards migrants has changed in Germany and, like in France, has strengthened an anti-immigrant political party in opposition called Alternative for Germany. The response of national unity to these terrorist attacks that persisted last year in France is no longer supported by the political officials in Europe.

The leader of the far-right party in France blamed "all those who have governed us for the 30 years" for the seemingly large gap in public safety. Combined with the growing nationalism before the attacks in Europe, these murky and horrific terrorist attacks have left Europe in a state of political unrest and demand a new approach of opening the borders to migrants.



# Glover's Corner: Dissecting the Politics of Race



By John Glover  
Opinions Editor

The summer is come and gone, but the tragic shootings of Baton Rouge, Dallas, and St. Paul (just to name a few) are anything but behind us. Over the course of a few months, we've found ourselves immersed, as a nation, within a seemingly never-ending, bloody cycle of violence and vendetta. On the one hand, police have been needlessly, routinely killing people; on the other, manic vigilantes have been reciprocally massacring blameless cops. With such incessant violence and constant sorrow, there exists ample blame to consign; however, cutting to the crux of this issue means asking "why" before "what next."

Statistically, the police are disproportionately killing young black men more frequently than any other demographic group, but that doesn't mean the cops should bear the brunt of our blame. They're certainly the ones doing the killing, but a litany of underlying, systemic issues (e.g. urban squalor and the "War on Drugs") have created the conditions conducive of those triggers being pulled.

The truth is the U.S. (so much for being "home of the free") incarcerates more citizens per capita than any other nation

(including North Korea and Iran!). This appalling but nonetheless unavoidable fact stems from our nation's archaic, irrational drug policies. In other words, the reason why we have such high levels of incarceration is because we're locking away literally hundreds of thousands of non-violent drug offenders, who tend to be disproportionately (you guessed it!) people of color. The scale of this injustice is so expansive that, today, A MAJORITY of African American children are born out of wedlock. In other words, the state has thrown so many people behind bars that A MAJORITY of black babies are growing up without a father present.

As if this loss of liberty weren't doing enough damage, the U.S. also prohibits its ex-felons from voting in its elections, and it's far more difficult to find employment for people who have been in prison. This unholy combination makes for entire communities becoming disenfranchised both politically and economically.

African American communities are largely trapped within near-inescapable cycles of poverty and crime. Because primary and secondary educational institutions are funded primarily through property taxes, the schools of majority-minority inner-cities are of inherently lower quality. As a result of this logical fallacy, these downtrodden neighborhoods tend to have far fewer employment opportunities than their more affluent counterparts. Factor in mass incarceration,

which removes role models, and the War on Drugs, which creates artificially lucrative black markets to capitalize on, and it's no wonder that young African Americans are disproportionately committing crimes in this country.

## We have to recognize the existence of this problem without giving in to the temptations of anger and resentment.

What does any of this have to do with police brutality? Well, entire generations of young black people (in certain communities) are growing up at war with the rest of society. Police cars incessantly patrol their neighborhoods and come to take their fathers away in the dead of night. Consider this, and it seems no wonder why fear of the police has become such a prominent fixture of black culture.

Conversely, police officers are being trained to associate African Americans with criminals by virtue of their skin color alone. Policies such as Stop and Frisk, used in New York City, have literally incorporated racial profiling into standard police procedure. Consider

this culture, and the self-replicating violence perpetrated by both sides seems unavoidable.

In order to move forward, we have to recognize the existence of this problem without giving in to the temptations of anger and resentment. The problem isn't that all cops are racist but that the system of our society is fundamentally flawed, and the worst part is, for as long as we've existed as a nation, it's always been this way.

Democratic nominee Hillary Clinton has suggested that body cameras on police officers and minimum sentencing reform (for non-violent drug offenders) would resolve this issue. While these reforms would certainly be a step in the right direction, it's also clear, based on the evidence, that they wouldn't go nearly far enough. These suggestions represent band-aid solutions that, while being net positive, fail to address the root causes of the violence we've been witnessing.

The issue of poverty and the flaws within our justice system are daunting, it's true, but the good news is that they're no longer hidden in the shadows. The bad news is we're no closer, concretely, to solving the problem. At the end of the day, one thing is for certain: wholesale reform and reconciliation will take time (a long time), but as MLK once said, "The arc of the moral universe is long, but it bends toward justice."



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## Mac's Corner: "Vote Civility 2016"



By Mac Roberts  
Assistant Opinions  
Editor

Civility seems to be something we have lost sight of. Anyone who hasn't been living under a rock for the last decade has noticed it. Politics has become more and more polarizing. I'm not sure whether the problem is the ubiquitous presence of social media or if it's just how things are now, but it's becoming toxic. However, I understand the fuss. If you are interested in politics and throw your support behind a candidate, you become invested in him or her, and it can hurt to see that person lose.

Walter Mondale, who lost a whopping 49 states to Ronald Reagan in 1984, told this story: "I was talking to George McGovern one day. He, like me, had run for president and got clobbered, and I got clobbered, and he had run a long time ago, 1972, and I saw him one day and I said 'George, how long does it take to get over a big loss like this?' And he said, 'I'll let you know when it happens.'"

This story highlights one of the facts of politics: losing hurts. We saw it twice recently at both the Republican and Democratic conventions. At the former, Ted Cruz, who came in second behind Trump, ignited a mass of negative

responses from the delegates. When Cruz failed to endorse Donald Trump, the party's nominee, they were so angered by this slap in the face to unity that they "booed" the end of his speech. It seems that in previous conventions, like Reagan's in 1984 and Bush's in 2000, this display of anger and refusal to unite would not have occurred.

At the Democratic Convention, many Bernie Sanders supporters refused to swallow the pill of having to support Hillary Clinton, the Democratic nominee, and many even turned to the Green Party's candidate Jill Stein. Some of these protesters felt betrayed by the Democratic Party due to its support of Clinton from the beginning of the primaries. Thus, many supporters of the 74-year-old democratic socialist decided to walk out of the convention and stage a sit-in, among other acts of protest, including chanting during Clinton's acceptance speech and displaying signs in support of Jill Stein and the Green Party.

**We must end this  
air of malice and  
bitterness and get on  
with the election.**

But, in the end, Trump is the candidate. The numbers don't lie. Likewise, Hillary

is her party's nominee. It was in motion before the convention even began. Some may say that each got where they are with some mud slinging and dirty tricks: Hillary with her being in cahoots with her party's leaders and Trump with his widely controversial methods of attacking other candidates. However, the ballots are set, and supporters of losing candidates must decide behind which candidate to throw their support.

I would, therefore, urge these "homeless" former Bernie supporters to find a candidate for whom they would feel comfortable voting for, whether they cave and support Clinton or decide to continue their political revolution with Jill Stein and the Green Party. I hope that, in the end, these protesters find a home because protesting against Clinton's nomination is futile. Likewise, I would urge Ted Cruz and the "Never Trump" Republicans to throw their support behind Big Don or to give up on many of the social issues they stand for and support the Libertarian, socially liberal Gary Johnson. I say this for the same reason stated for "Bernsters": protest and defiance of Donald's nomination is futile because the ballot is set in stone.

Dissent within one's party after the nomination of its presidential candidate brings no result and often makes for more polarization. Moreover, there is no object to these protests because they never have and never will accomplish what the

protesters want: the nomination of their losing candidate. We must end this air of malice and bitterness and get on with the election.

To Bernie supporters: if you feel betrayed by your party and want to continue your political revolution, vote Green. If you want to unify the Democratic Party and support a candidate who could actually become president, vote Hillary.

To the "Never Trump" Republicans: if you genuinely feel that your differences with Donald Trump are greater than the areas on which you agree, then support the long-shot candidate, Gary Johnson. However, if you want to, as Cruz said, support the candidate who would most uphold our Constitutional values (and could win), then please take your seat on the Trump Train.

Here's for no more pointless protests; vote for "Civility 2016."



Are you talented?

Creative?

Intelligent?

Humorous?

Freakishly knowledgeable about a topic, however obscure?

**Then write for *The Bell Ringer*!**

We need enthusiastic people to join our ranks. Whether you're a freshman just off the boat from Massey or an upperclassman looking to pad his college application, we've got a place for you.

Contact Peter "Tolstoy" Taylor, Andrew "Totomoi" Kaplan, or John "Tempest" Fioravanti to be added to the email list.

We meet in Mr. Hutton's classroom, Lowry 11, around once a month to plan for each issue. Come with eagerness and article ideas.

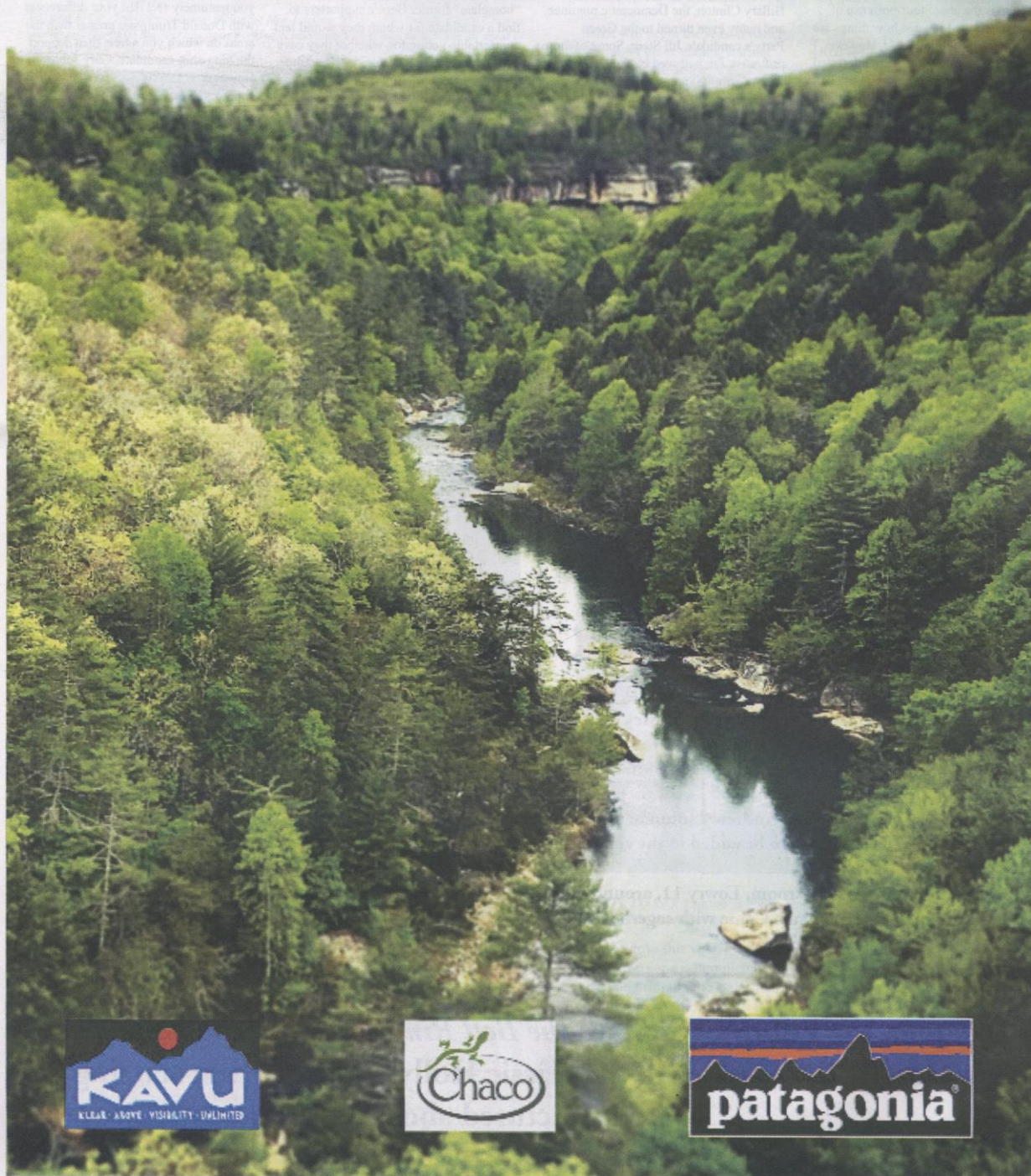


This year, the Editorial Staff of *The Bell Ringer* will be known as "The Dirty Dozen" in reference to the classic Hollywood war film starring Lee Marvin (pictured above).



Cumberland  
Transit

ADVENTURE AWAITS







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OPINIONS EDITOR  
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FACULTY ADVISOR  
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ASST. FACULTY ADVISOR  
*Mr. Win Bassett*

MEMBER, TENNESSEE HIGH SCHOOL PRESS ASSOCIATION  
*The Bell Ringer* is a non-profit newspaper operated and published by and for the students of Montgomery Bell Academy, who are its intended audience. Views expressed in *The Bell Ringer* do not necessarily represent those held by the staff or school.

Letters to the Editor are encouraged, and can be delivered to the *Bell Ringer* office in the Lowry Building, the Faculty Advisors or the Editors, or sent to [bellringer@montgomerybell.edu](mailto:bellringer@montgomerybell.edu) (simply type 'Bell Ringer' into the school email). These letters must be signed; *The Bell Ringer* neither publishes anonymous submissions of opinions or articles nor permits individuals to remain unidentified unless protected by other rules of confidentiality at MBA. Letters will be edited for length and clarity.

The staff of *The Bell Ringer* prepares all copy at Montgomery Bell Academy, Tennessee/Gannett in Nashville, Tennessee, prints the paper.

## A Note from The Editor

Welcome back to school! We hope you're excited about this upcoming sesquicentennial year (how many times do you think we'll hear that in assembly this year?).

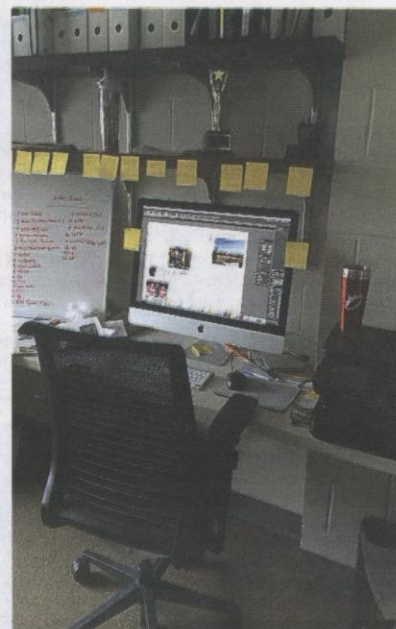
We here at *The Bell Ringer* have been working hard this summer to begin the re-escalation of our journalistic presence, on and off campus. Though the writing was generally of high quality, we understand that other areas of the paper last year were to some degree lacking, including social media and web presence.

We have decided to revamp our presence our online presence. Our website will now be regularly updated alongside the publication of our print editions as well as occasionally with extra articles that were not published due to space constraints. Check regularly for these features in addition to poles, pictures, and otherwise generally cool stuff.

We are doing the same thing in the social media sphere. We have returned to Facebook and will be making semi-regular posts about issues and articles.

We will be more frequently updating our Twitter and Instagram feeds. Follow for a follow back @mbabellringer. We will be posting sports scores, cool facts, links to interesting internet pieces or funny videos, and all around general updates about campus and school life.

We are looking to have a newspaper vending machine outside our Publications office in Lowry. Permission from the administration is pending, but we are hopeful to provide a constant location to pick up newspaper on



publication day. We also just think it would look pretty cool.

One final change we hope to make is the beginning of a new run of articles called *Bell Ringer Extra*. In between publications of the our regular, 24-page print editions, we will release single page supplements with a few articles each. Be on the look out.

*The Bell Ringer* staff is excited for a great year of covering topics and getting to the bottom of the questions we all may have. Contact the staff with any suggestions. Roll Red.

### We're BACK!

After a near year of practical internet silence, we here at *The Bell Ringer* have taken it upon ourselves to reassert our online presence.

Visit us at the [www.thebellringer.org](http://www.thebellringer.org) to see content that didn't make it into print issue due to space constrictions.



Like us on Facebook. We'll post updates not only about the newspaper, but also school events, sports scores, or cool stuff we think is worth sharing.

Follow us on Twitter and Instagram @mbabellringer. There, we'll be posting mostly Big Red sports scores or other quick updates.

If you're interested in working on *The Bell Ringer's* website or helping us improve our online presence, contact Hamilton Garber, our Webmaster, or Peter Taylor, Editor-in-Chief.



# "Writing" the Wave in the Big Apple

By Ben Coulthard  
Associate Editor

From June 19 through the June 24 this past summer, Editor-In-Chief Peter Taylor and I took on the Columbia Scholastic Press Association's Summer Journalism Workshop, which took place on the campus of Columbia University. To improve the quality of this year's *Bell Ringer*, we took journalism classes led by teachers, professors, and journalists from around the United States. They aim to teach students how to improve their

writing and design skills to apply them to their respective newspapers at school.

I took Reporting and Writing, a class led by Mr. Chris Waugaman, who is a yearbook and newspaper teacher in Virginia. Mr. Waugaman instructed if we were to leave his class learning only one thing, it would be how to "properly deliver a story to grab the reader's attention" while following writing protocol.

Peter took a class with Mr. Bretton Zinger, an English and journalism teacher from Massachusetts. In addition

to teaching the fundamental elements of journalistic writing, Mr.

Zinger covered other useful aspects of newspaper editing and management, including page design, staff management, and various ethical situations journalists might have to respond to when covering a story.

Here on the Hill, a key aspect of our curriculum is

the development of strong writing skills. But, due to the nature of our assignments and the infamously eloquent themes, our newspaper writers often have trouble keeping their flowing sentences and ten sentence paragraphs out of newspaper articles that are intended to be snappy and interesting.

The schools of our colleagues at Columbia offer journalism classes to correct this confusion and foster journalistic writing styles in their writers. MBA lacks this aspect of its English curriculum. This journalism program proved invaluable in teaching Peter and me to hone our fundamentals in addition to developing some of the finer points of the journalistic craft. We're looking forward to sharing these skills with the rest of our staff this year.

Though Peter and I were in New York to learn how to improve our writing, it didn't mean we couldn't have some fun on the side. One of our night activities the program coordinated was going to see the Broadway show *Finding Neverland*. I had never been to a show, but the cast blew the show out of the water. Afterwards, we got to go to orchestra level and had a Q&A session with the cast. It was interesting to see how different the cast was in real life as opposed to being in character. Each one had such a personable ease about them, telling the journalists to follow their passions and that everything will work out.

In addition to the classes, afternoon activities such as pop-up classes were offered. These classes were meant to have a specialized focus, being only 30 minutes. I attended the Ethics in Journalism class led by Jenny Dial Creech, the assistant sports editor for the *Houston Chronicle*. She gave attendees the lowdown on how to write an article, especially one with sensitive subject matter, without breaking ethical codes or laws.

We were also all provided the opportunity to sit in on an admissions information session for Columbia University delivered by an alumnus of both Columbia and the CSPA journalism workshop. He had also edited *The Columbia Spectator*, the school's flagship newspaper. He gave us a thoughtful and enlightening look into not only Columbia's atmosphere and qualities but also some key pointers about aspects of a student's profile that the most selective schools take into account during the admissions process.

Overall, the week-long camp provided important insight for writers to improve their writing, whether it be for a theme essay or a newspaper article. It was also a chance to discover what the "Big Apple" actually had to offer. Having gone through the week, Peter, *The Bell Ringer* staff, and I will continue to make the news the best it can be.

**MASTER OF YOUR DOMAIN?** Peter (left) and Ben (right) visited Tom's Restaurant, the outside location of the diner frequented by Jerry and his friends on *Seinfeld*. The owners neither took credit cards (only cash) nor were happy about splitting the check. (Photo Credit: Thomas Woodville)



## Carving a Path: Interview with Jenny Creech of *The Houston Chronicle*

By Ben Coulthard  
Sports Editor

While many young children say they're going to become astronauts or princesses when they grow up, Jenny Dial Creech knew from an early age she had a passion for writing. This interest would lead her to where she is today—the Assistant Sports Editor for the *Houston Chronicle*.

"There were times when I was little that I had a little notepad and would write things down that I saw," Dial Creech said about her earliest writing memories. "For whatever reason, writing's something I feel I was truly born to do."

Dial Creech began to write when she joined the staffs of her middle school newspaper and yearbook. She wrote throughout middle school and high school, attending workshops like the CSPA Summer Journalism Workshop at Columbia University.

When it was time for her to head to college, the search for schools with good journalism programs was on. Dial Creech settled on the University of Oklahoma, stating, "[Oklahoma] had just started a new journalism program with money flowing through it. They were also able to offer me scholarships and gave me multiple options."

Having grown up in a family where sports were played and enjoyed, Dial Creech covered athletics for the student-run *Oklahoma Daily* and was fortunate enough to cover a surprise national championship run for football in 2000 and a basketball trip Final Four in 2002.

Because of the Sooners' success, big name papers such as the *Dallas Morning News* and *Kansas City Star* came asking for writers from the *Daily* to send them features about Sooner athletics. Getting her name and work out to professional papers was important, Dial Creech said. "By the time I got through my junior year or so, I had professional writing clips and a good clipbook to try and get jobs after college."

And jobs came looking for her. After interning for *Sports Illustrated*, *USA Today*, and even the United States Olympic Committee during the 2004 Olympic

**I've learned how to have thicker skin and not take stuff so personally, not to get down, or let anyone dictate how I feel about myself. I have to let my work speak for myself.**

Games, Dial Creech became a high school sports reporter in 2005 for the *Houston Chronicle*. She has since continued writing for the *Chronicle*, covering multiple sports (including the *Houston Astros* and *Rockets*), and she now serves as the newspaper's Assistant Sports Editor.

All this time and work has also included being the current president of

the Association for Women in Sports Media. This group consists of about 500 women who work in sports, whether it be as journalists, broadcasters, or PR staff.

Being a part of AWSM has been beneficial for Dial Creech as a female member of the sports press. She talked about how grateful she was for the organization because of "things like learning how to deal with a coach that doesn't want you around because you're female or how you should dress or carry yourself. Things not normally addressed at a regular workshop."

Dial Creech remains the only female staff member of her section at the *Chronicle*, and these small issues are part of her everyday life. It is an unfortunate reality faced for many, if not all, women in sports media. People will look differently at you than your male counterparts simply because of gender. Security guards will check your badge more closely. Male readers will make sexist remarks. Twitter trolls will go out of their way to harass you. However, Dial Creech learned not to let it affect her: "I've learned how to have thicker skin and not take stuff so personally, not to get down, or let anyone dictate how I feel about myself. I have to let my work speak for myself."

Despite the struggles Dial Creech has faced during her career, she has excelled as a writer and a journalist. She



**DREAMS DO COME TRUE:** Jenny Dial Creech, Assistant Sports Editor of the *Houston Chronicle*, was kind enough to grant the *Bell Ringer* an interview while teaching this summer at the Columbia Scholastic Press Association Workshop. (Photo Credit: Houston Chronicle)

has won awards for her writing such as the Columbia University Gold Key for Excellence in Teaching and also was awarded the APSE Diversity Fellowship, just to name a few. She takes pride in her work, making sure to "work my butt off to see everything is right and good and fair and that I'm telling stories people care about." And that's what good journalists like Jenny Dial Creech do: give unique stories for their readers to enjoy.





# THINK BIG

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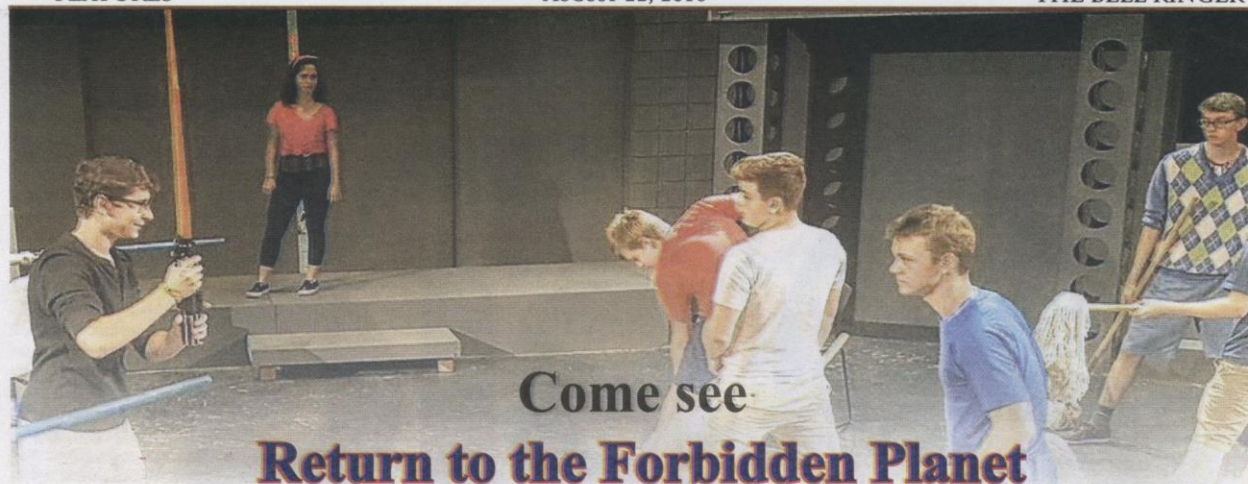
**615-383-7871**



**SCOTT PORTIS, CLASS OF '84**

**MCCLAIN PORTIS, CLASS OF '18**





Come see  
**Return to the Forbidden Planet**

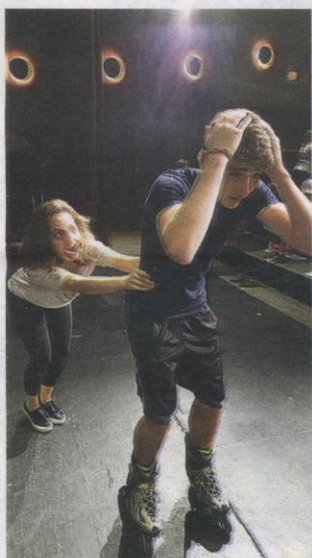
*MBA's 19th musical collaboration  
 with Harpeth Hall.*

**Wednesday, August 31 @ 6:30  
 P.M.**

**Thursday September 1 @ 6:30  
 P.M.**

**Friday September 2 @ 4:30 P.M.**

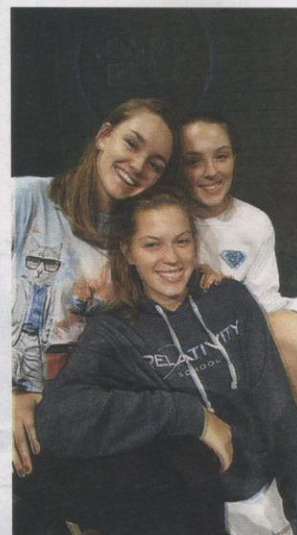
**Saturday September 3 @ 2:00  
 P.M.**



**ROBOT MAN:** Luke Rochford '17 plays a robot named Ariel, the servant of Miranda (Charlotte Staggs HH '18) and Dr. Prospero (Peter Taylor '17, not pictured).



**WHO'S SORRY NOW?** Ms. Hamilton, Harpeth Hall dance instructor and longtime choreographer for MBA/HH musicals, guides a group of actors in the learning of a dance. #theballisinyourcourt

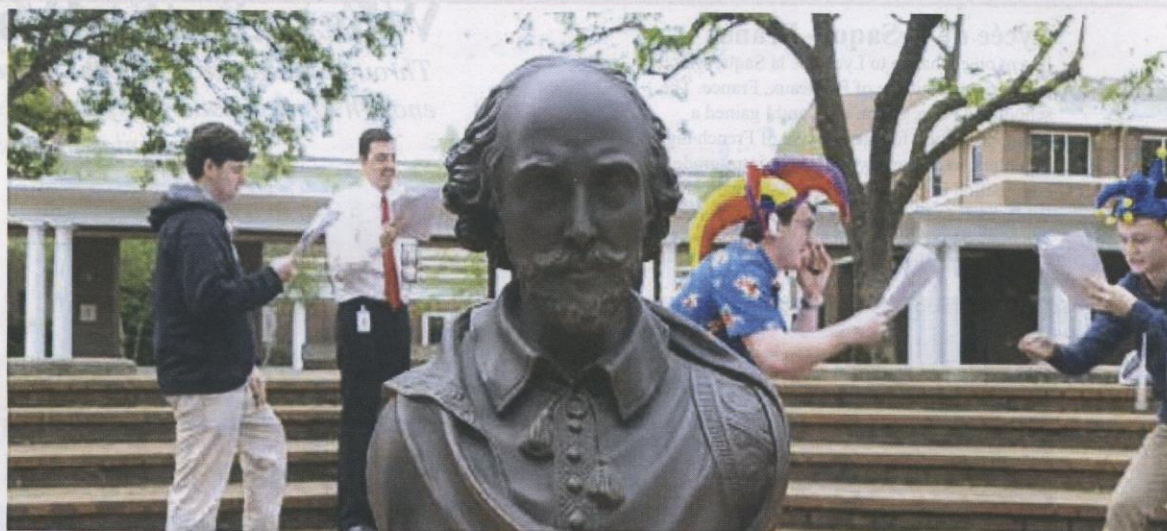


**D'ILLYRIUM DREAMS:** Halle Petrie '18, Meredith Welborn '17, and Kira Hinchey '17 form a vocal trio, providing crisp harmonies and accompaniments to the leads singing and dancing on stage.

**O BRAVE NEW WORLD!** *Return to the Forbidden Planet* is inspired by a 1956 science fiction film *Forbidden Planet*, which is in turn based on Shakespeare's *The Tempest*. In the spirit of homage, the majority of the dialogue is comprised of extracts from numerous Shakespeare plays, including *King Lear*, *Macbeth*, *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, and *Romeo and Juliet*.







## THE 2016-2017 "FOLIO" SEASON BY THE MBA THEATER DEPARTMENT

*In celebration of the folio at the Parthenon, we have an entire season inspired by the Bard*

**August 31 - September 3**

### **RETURN TO THE FORBIDDEN PLANET** — Book by Bob Carlton.

Blast off on a routine flight and crash into the planet D'Illyria where a sci-fi version of *The Tempest* set to rock-n-roll favorites unfolds with unabashed glee. The planet is inhabited by a strange cast of characters; a sinister scientist, his delightful daughter, a faithful robot on roller skates, and an uncontrollable monster. Cal Fuller directs our nineteenth annual musical collaboration with Harpeth Hall. The popular songs and wacky retelling will have you smiling for days! Performance times: Wed & Thurs @ 6:30, Friday @ 4:30 and Sat @ 2 at MBA.

**November 17 - 20**

### **VOLPONE** — by Ben Jonson.

A merciless satire of greed and lust with allusions to Aesop's Fables, this play remains the most-performed play by Shakespeare's contemporary. The King's Men, the company that produced Shakespeare's early plays and in which he himself acted, staged the first performance of *Volpone*. Malcolm Morrison directs Jonson's masterpiece with original music that spotlights a society governed by deceit and subterfuge. Performance times: Thursday & Friday @ 6:30; Saturday @ 7; Sunday @ 2.

**January 26 - 28**

### **THE SEUSSIFICATION OF ROMEO & JULIET** — by Peter Bloedel.

A whimsical reinvention of Shakespeare's tragic love story, complete with rhymed couplets, creative wordplay, and fantastical machines -- similar to something Dr. Seuss might have come up with if he ever had his way with the script. Directed by Nelson Berry, this classic with a comic twist promises to be a delight for all ages. Performance times: Thursday & Friday @ 6:30; Saturday @ 2.

**February 22 - 25**

### **THE TEMPEST** — by William Shakespeare.

Prospero, a sorcerer and rightful Duke of Milan, dwells on an enchanted isle with his daughter, Miranda. Twelve years earlier, the duke's brother, Antonio, conspired with others to usurp his throne. When magic reveals that a ship bearing his old enemies is sailing near the island, Prospero summons a storm to wreck their ship and guide them to repentance. Join us as Cal Fuller directs this beautiful tale of sacrifice and forgiveness, told with music performed by the cast. Performance times: Thursday & Friday @ 6:30; Saturday @ 7; Sunday at 2.

**April 13-14**

### **THE 12TH ANNUAL "SHAKESPEARATHON"**

(24 hours of Shakespeare) This fundraiser benefits the Nashville Shakespeare Festival. It'll be a fun-filled day performing Shakespeare's plays, playing games and other participating in other activities inspired by the Bard. Thursday & Friday (7 a.m. to 7 a.m.)

For more information, contact Cal Fuller at [cal.fuller@montgomerybell.edu](mailto:cal.fuller@montgomerybell.edu).



MONTGOMERY BELL ACADEMY  
4001 HARDING ROAD • NASHVILLE, TN 37205  
[WWW.MONTGOMERYBELL.EDU](http://WWW.MONTGOMERYBELL.EDU)



### Lycée de la Saque- France

I went on exchange to Lycée de la Saque which is 20 minutes outside of Bordeaux, France. The school had rustic charm to it, and I gained a real appreciation for the lifestyle of French high schoolers, meaning anything from intra-grade competition or fireworks in the dorm hallways. While touring Paris for my last five days, I experienced the thrills and chaos of the Euro Cup.

Isaac Wills



**MEN WHO STROVE WITH GODS:** Charlie Ma '18 (left) and Andrew Duffy '17 (right), alongside Monsieur Trotter (not pictured), accompanied Isaac on exchange.

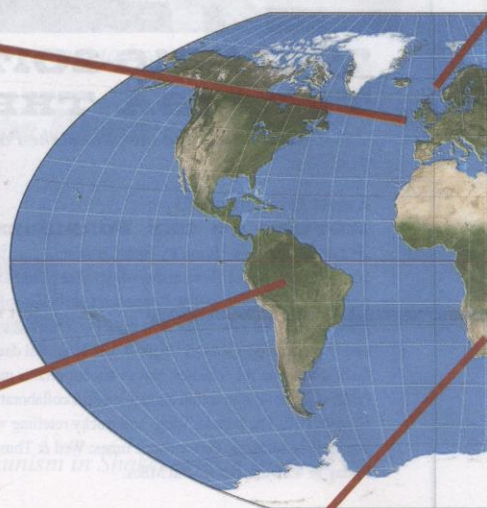
### Claustro Moderno- Colombia

For my exchange, I spent 3 weeks attending Colegio Claustro Moderno in Bogotá, Colombia with Mack Smithing, Patrick Andreen, Jack Anderson, and Mr. Berry. I actually ended up staying with a family from the Argentinian military, and lived in an apartment on a military base near downtown Bogotá. My family introduced me to Argentinian culture, while the school showed me Colombian culture. We challenged some of the Colombians to a 3 game basketball series, and won in 2 games, with many students getting out of class to watch the game at the school's basketball court. Many were in awe of Jack's height and ability to touch the rim. We also took their classes and tests, but in Spanish. On a Spanish Physics test, Mack, Patrick, and I got some of the highest grades in the class. We are very thankful to the Wilson Family for this opportunity.

Mark Lillard



**SOJOURN:** Four MBA students and a teacher travelled this summer to Colombia to study and experience the local culture.



### Michaelhouse- South Africa

Our exchange in South Africa was incredible. All three families we stayed with were warm and welcoming, and each made us feel immediately at home. We traveled through Durban, Howick and Underberg before spending the last three weeks at Michaelhouse in the KwaZulu-Natal Midlands. We made many friends and won't ever forget our experience.

Cole Thornton



**EXCURSION:** Turner Johnson and Cole Thornton take a break from school for an activity, reflecting on the Warner Exchanges' power to broaden students' minds inside and outside the classroom.



## are Our Students?

Warner families, our students are lucky  
and over the summer. Here are just a few  
of the many experiences.



**YOU'RE A WIZARD, HARRY:** Winchester College, along with its cousins Eton and Harrow, famously served as inspiration for the fictional Hogwarts School.

### Winchester College- England

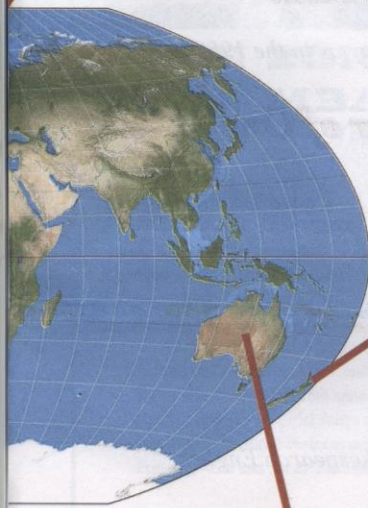
This summer I went on a spectacular month long exchange to Winchester College, in Winchester, Hampshire, UK. From the midmorning coffee and hot chocolate break to the evening tea, there was rarely a dull moment. I took three courses: Design Technology, Theology and Philosophy, and Chemistry, as well as a broader, more open, discussion-based class called DIV. In my free time, I went into the local town of Winchester and took the train to London, Windsor, and Eton. I was also fortunate enough to be there during the British referendum and got to learn a great deal about British politics. It was definitely a trip to remember, and all thanks to the Warner Exchange Program. - **Tom Peters**  
**#JustForBanter #BREXIT #OTH #MannersMakethMan**

### Christ's College- New Zealand

We travelled to the distant land of New Zealand, much like Old Zealand except with that new country smell. After several days of gridlock attempting to communicate through stick drawings and charades we realized that the native language is actually English. In school we promptly set to our studies. Our second week a wise old wizard visited us with a band of dwarves and sent us on a quest to slay the dragon Smaug. When we arrived at Smaug's lair we were greeted by famous New Zealander, Lorde. Lorde helped us to vanquish the dragon and we were rewarded for our trouble with 500 sheep each. On a serious note, my exchange was an absolutely incredible opportunity to see a new and beautiful part of the world, and I'm grateful to the Warner family for making it happen. - **Warner Lamar**  
**#australia'sCanada #speightsMan**



**NOT THIS DAY:** Much of the Lord of the Rings trilogy of films were filmed in New Zealand.



**WHAT'S THAT?** Joe spots a kangaroo while on exchange in Australia

### Melbourne Grammar School- Australia

Jack Reineke, Brian Thomas, and I went to Melbourne Grammar School for four weeks this summer. The school is similar to ours, but offers some classes that are not offered at MBA. One example was philosophy which was a great class. Jack, Brian, and I all had different experiences here at Melbourne to an extent. Jack and I stayed with different host families while Brian stayed at the boarding house with students all over Australia and even some from other countries. While we were at different places many times during our stay, we all went one day to Healesville Sanctuary a few hours out of Melbourne. There we saw many of the incredible animals that make Australia's environment so special. We saw many poisonous snakes, beautiful birds like kookaburras, kangaroos, koalas, Tasmanian devils, and a lot more. The exchange was amazing. We are very thankful and feel fortunate for this once-in-a-lifetime opportunity. - **Joe Moxley**  
**#Joey #outthepouch**



# Where in the World are Our Students?

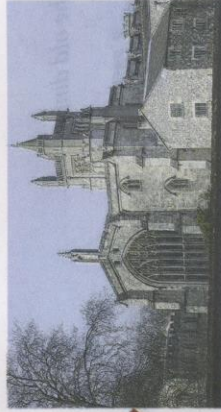
Through the generosity of the Wilson and Warner families, our students are lucky enough to travel and study around the world over the summer. Here are just a few testimonies about some of the many experiences.

## France

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GODS: Charlie Ma 18  
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AUGUST 22, 2016

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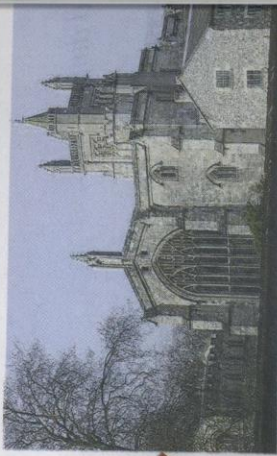
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**YOU'RE A WIZARD, HARRY:** Winchester College along with its cousins Eton and Harrow, famously served as inspiration for the fictional Hogwarts School.



NOT  
trillo



## Superlatives: Revisiting Our Favorite Summer Reads

### Best All-Around Book: *1984*

What would you put in Room 101? We would put in the old dining hall.

### Most Gripping Page-Turner: *And Then There Were None*

Don't tell us you knew from the beginning that the Judge did it.

### Most Thought Provoking Book: *Invisible Man*

This profound rumination on American racism is still as relevant today as in the 1950s.

### Biggest Chore to Get Through: *The Power of One*

Once it got going, though, it got GOING.

### Favorite All-School Read: *Unbroken*

Nothing like a good World War II story of courage and resilience.

### Nyquil Award: *Utopia*

Nothing is more entertaining than descriptions of communism in Shakespearan English.

### Favorite Choice Book: *Lady in the Lake*

So good that we still can't remember the killer.

### Mr. Moxley's Pick: *The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn*

Every one of his students is "moxlefied" with an understanding of Twain's keen satire and wit.

### Book With Most Disappointing Movie: *The Hobbit*

One cannot simply make three 180 minute movies about a 250 page book.

### Most Misleading Opening Line: *Between Shades of Grey*

When we first read, "they took me in my nightgown," we could have sworn it was the other one.



# Live on the Green : Nashville's Favorite Festival

By Hamilton Garber  
Staff Music Enthusiast and Webmaster

Every Nashvillian's favorite free music festival is finally back.

The seventh *Live on the Green* 2016 kicked off August 11th and continues every Thursday through September 3rd. The annual live music festival hosted by local radio station Lightning 100, is completely free of charge for general admission. Given *Live on the Green*'s previous track record, this year's lineup, and the accessibility of the concerts, this year's events are likely to draw significant crowds to Capitol Lawn.

Even for those who may not be attracted to any given year's lineup, the event can still be a great experience. Local food trucks populate the adjacent Deaderick street, and many of the bands provide merchandise, including posters and t-shirts. The shows are even pet-friendly, so you can feel free to drag your dog, cat, or Beta fish along with you to the stages to enjoy the shows.

Lightning 100 justifies its festival as a way to give back to Nashville through music and community. When asked, "Why free?", they provide three reasons: "Because this is music city, because this is Nashville, and because you deserve it." A key aim of the event is to promote Nashville and its artists and businesses. As such, many of the opening acts, and even some of the more notorious headliners, are Nashville natives, and most of the



**ONE MORE SPOON:** *Young the Giant* (pictured above) has one standout hit, "Cough Syrup," a fan favorite and a crowd pleaser.

sponsors are local restaurants, breweries, or small businesses.

But the most important part of the festival is the music. This year brings another astounding collection of popular headliners, including *Young the Giant*, *Passenger*, *Band of Horses*, *Dawes*, *Børns*, *Kurt Vile*, and the *Wild Feathers*, to name only a few.

Especially notable is the large number of local and upcoming acts that will serve as opening acts to the more experienced headliners. Three

openers to watch will be *COIN*, Jr Jr, and the *Record Company*. Coming out of Belmont, locals *COIN* produced a fun summer jam this year with their track "Talk Too Much." It will be interesting to discover what kind of music they reveal to fill out their set.

Jr Jr is responsible for the easily-recognizable whistle tune, "Gone." They produce a more laid back sound that should be a crowd pleaser and certainly one to watch for the future. The *Record Company*, a

personal favorite of this reporter, generates an unadulterated, raw style that will certainly sound great live.

The headliners this year are nothing to sneeze at, despite their somewhat esoteric followings. *Kurt Vile* is a straightforward, simple guitarist whose clean sound and poetic lyrics gained him a recent surge in popularity, following the release of his latest single, "Pretty Pimpin'." *Young the Giant* is a music festival staple with their upbeat crowd pleasers such as the hit singles, "My Body" and "Cough Syrup." Having recently played *Vanderbilt's Rites of Spring Festival*, *Young the Giant* is no novice to Nashville stages.

This writer's personal favorite band in the lineup is *Dawes*. Following their recent performance at the Ryman, *Dawes* will be back for round two in Nashville. Playing the perfect combo of indie and classic folk rock, *Dawes* will surely turn a few heads. Look out for the lyrical masterpiece, "When My Time Comes."

*Live on the Green* offers something for everyone, free of charge, so there is no reason not to check it out. Though most of the concerts are on school nights, they are more than worth the lost sleep and crammed study halls the next day. Do Nashville a favor and make it out to *Live on the Green*.

**FOLK ROCK REVIVAL:** The band *Dawes* (pictured below) has drawn critical praise for their ability to infuse modern musical sensibility with a more classic style of folk-rock as popularized by *Crosby*, *Stills*, *Nash* and *The Band*.





# Tear Down the House: *True Sadness* a stylistic shift for the Avett Brothers

By John Fioravanti  
Features Editor

In their most recent album, *True Sadness*, the Avett Brothers offer twelve tracks that encompass many new sounds from various genres while still, in most cases, retaining the original Avett Brothers essence we know and love. The collection also offers a perspective on the meaning of "true sadness" as it explores ideas such as death, despair, regret, and lost love. And the band members' lives after their album *Maggie and the Dandelion* make for an intriguing interpretation. From Bob Crawford's daughter's diagnosis with cancer and Seth Avett's nasty divorce, it has been a wild ride for the crew.

In an interview with *Rolling Stone*, Scott Avett explained what true sadness means to him, "True sadness" is a statement about how pitiful it is. But it's not meant to be completely grim; it's just poking fun at how ill-equipped we are, hanging onto memories and the past. It's truly sad."

The band is able to "poke fun" while maintaining an upbeat and melodic fashion for many of their songs, beginning with the bluesy "Ain't No Man." It is a powerfully headstrong song, evident

from confidently harmonious vocals of the entire Avett Brothers crew. It's a great opening to the album.

Directly after, the album launches into two songs filled with themes of disillusionment, life and death, and the value of worldly possessions. "Mama I Don't Believe" dives into the skepticism of fame and fortune, perhaps commenting upon the current American obsession with the acquisition of the almighty dollar. "No Hard Feelings," on the other hand, questions the value of fortune from another angle as well as preaching the worthlessness of bitter feelings. The song is a self-reflection which can be observed in both the lyrics and the presentation of the vocals seconded by soft acoustic accompaniment.

"Fisher Road to Hollywood" is the most transparent look into the lives of the Avett Brothers of any song on the album and perhaps any song ever conceived by the band. It takes us on a journey through the lows and highs on the climb to fame with the strum of a guitar and the confessional vocals of Scott and Seth Avett. The song is overrun with overwhelming regret of all they lost and never found. This message seems to be both a reflection on their life



**TRUE SADNESS, INDEED:** Some fans believe that the album pictured has offered too great of a breaking point from what makes the Avett Brothers unique.

as well as a warning about the path of fame itself.

"I Wish I Was," similar to "Fisher Road to Hollywood," is hauntingly beautiful and personal with classic Avett Brothers' vocals with underlying acoustic melodies. The song is an incredibly simple ballad both lyrically and musically, yet it is so touching. It embodies the heart and soul of everything the band does musically.

The title song, "True Sadness," as well as "Victims of Life" are the best examples of Scott's statement on the intention of the album and. The songs have hopping, catchy melodies, with contrastingly bleaker and condemning lyrics. They are perfect songs to portray the dark humor one can find in our hopeless efforts to prepare for life that will inevitably win whether it be a flat tire or death itself.

The album, however, is not without its faults. While experimentation with new sounds for the Avett Brothers can sometimes be exciting, some of the songs seem to lose their Avett Brothers identity.

"Satan Pulls the Strings" was exhilarating live both the time this reviewer saw it and on their album *Live Vol. Four*. Their rendition on *True Sadness*, however, is ruined by overproduction, perhaps the doing of Rick Rubin, the producer the band has worked with since the 2009 smash hit *I and Love and You*.

The same problem is true of "You Are Mine." Where banjos and folk sensibility used to be, there are now heavily reverberated drums and copious vocal effects. These stylistic changes don't feel as if they stay true to the Avett Brothers brand, and it brings up the question of how much can a band experiment before losing its sonic identity.

Past its few faults, the album is still a wonderful addition to the Avett Brothers' canon that should satisfy Avett Brothers' fans and will keep them anticipating the next album.

**FOLKING OUT:** The Avett Brothers in concert in 2008, shown with the barest instrumentation. Their most recent albums have been a departure from their previous raw and simple sound, with *True Sadness*'s being the most noticeable.



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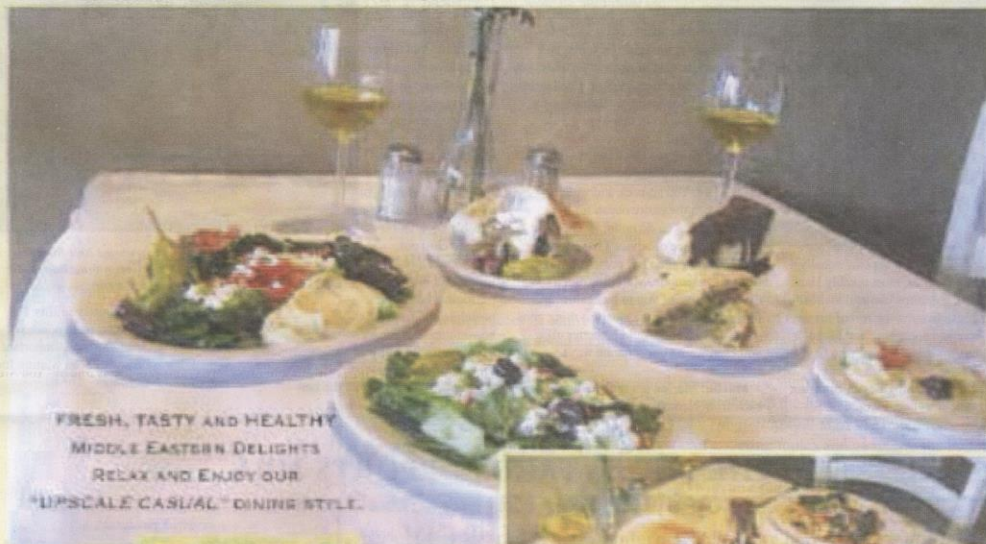


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# Finding Dory: Summer's Most Nostalgic Trip

By Jack Capizzi  
Entertainment Editor

The animated film on everyone's mind this summer was *Finding Dory*. Coming thirteen years after *Finding Nemo*, it is easy to say that people were ready for a sequel to the animated classic. Perhaps some who most eagerly awaiting the sequel were those of current high school age, many of whom would have viewed the original film repeatedly as children.

The creators do not stray too far from the original movie's plot for their sequel. This time around, however, the search is for Dory's long lost parents as opposed to the titular Nemo. Once again the search takes the characters over the infamous "Drop Off" and across the ocean. Along the way, Dory, Nemo, and Marvin encounter some of the classic sea creatures that made *Finding Nemo* so memorable, such as Crush (Andrew Stanton), the "California-surfer-dude Sea Turtle" who seems to have been experimenting a little too much with seaweed, and Mr. Ray (Bob Peterson), the incompetent schoolteacher who keeps losing students. Along with the previously known characters, a few new ones are introduced, destined to become equally memorable favorites, most notably Hank (Ed O'Neill), a grumpy old squid whose only goal is to live out the rest of his days in the Cleveland aquarium, and Fluke (Idris Elba), an irritating seal who has somehow acquired a British accent.

While the movie provides an engaging and nostalgic storyline, I would like

to provide some needed advice to the characters, presuming they are actual beings, as I noticed some obvious flaws that I could catch as I was not seeing this movie as a three year-old.

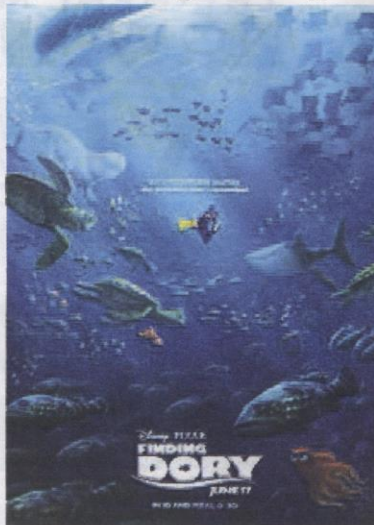
**Dory:** Throughout the movie you tell people that you suffer from short-term memory loss. Yet you repeatedly have vivid memories from when you were not even a year old. This contradiction to your self-professed problem makes me skeptical that you have any problems whatsoever. Also, throughout the entire movie you search for your parents because, supposedly, you forgot about them after a couple days away from home. This incident sparked my curiosity for why you never thought "Hey, maybe I have some parents of my own," when you and Marvin searched for Nemo in the first movie. Your supposed problems appear notably suspicious in this film.

**Nemo:** You have absolutely no purpose in this movie. All you do is swim along for the ride. You sit back and watch Dory search the entire ocean for her parents while you do nothing. The most important piece of advice I have for you is that the time has come for you to leave the anemone. Marvin is much too overprotective of you to be healthy and flips out whenever the smallest thing goes wrong. Everyone would be better off if you each went your separate ways.

**Marlin:** Marlin, it's time to take a step back from Nemo and Dory. To Nemo

you are a typical helicopter parent. If Nemo went to MBA, it would be more acceptable, and dare-I-say normal, behavior. However, in the middle of the ocean, surrounded by happy talking fish, it is simply irrational. You also lose your marbles when it comes to journeying across the ocean while you, Dory, and Nemo have made this trip a couple of times now without any huge consequences. You may encounter a shark or two here and there, but you end up fine every time. You should take a page out of Crush's book and learn to chill out.

*Finding Dory* is the perfect blend of original-Nemo nostalgia and fresh new material. It engages the audience's attention for its entire 115 minute running time by offering tips-of-the-hat to *Finding Nemo* in conjunction with the new adventure.



**HUDDLE UP!** In the sequel to the much-beloved 2001 Pixar film *Finding Nemo*, Dory goes searching for her parents with the help of Marlin and Nemo, two clownfish she met in the first movie.

*Finding Dory* definitely fulfills expectations and leads us to ponder Pixar's progress on the more important sequel that we have all been waiting for: that of *The Incredibles*.

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SPECIAL EVENTS



# Big Red Harriers: Cross Country 2016

By Isaac Wills  
Staff 5k Runner

For the MBA Cross Country team last year, staying healthy was the greatest challenge. The "injury bug" plagued a Big Red squad that competed at the State Championship with only one varsity runner who made it through the entire season without some kind of medical issue. Besides its obvious physical implications in hindering a runner's training, an injury also takes a toll on the morale of the athlete and the team he or she's a part of. So, when varsity seniors Hunter Hamilton and Robert Dedman as well as the team's fastest runner, Will Peters, received season ending injuries, the squad left behind was young and devoid of an experienced team leader. And yet, despite all the adversity the team experienced, the Big Red Harriers became tougher and stronger runners as a result.

MBA returns all seven runners from last year's State Championship squad, and we welcome back Will Peters, who was an allstate runner his freshman and sophomore seasons. Furthermore, the Big Red has a strong cast of other senior runners this year including Tom Peters, Alden Ferguson, Cole Thornton, Colin Ragsdale, and Richard White. The seniors have really taken charge this past summer and have made a concerted effort to connect and gel the team. They devised a small group system so that runners from the freshmen, sophomore,

and junior classes had a "go-to senior" to work with over the break.

Delving deeper into the leadership questions, Will Peters said about being a team captain, "It's a role I've grown into. I look to be a vocal leader, but also just to lead by example. I work really hard to do what I do, and I hope the guys see that respond by working hard as well. I hope to create a more intense running culture on the Hill, and really to spread the enthusiasm for the sport."

Understandably, many MBA students are getting really excited about the upcoming football season. Will shared some thoughts as to why the average MBA student should get excited for the Cross Country season: "With a healthy team, we should be in position to be a top two team in our division and a top five team in the entire state. I hope to bring back the competitive tradition in MBA running, but it will take hard work from top to bottom. I'm very optimistic."

As to why MBA students should come out to big meets, he again had a lot to say: "Cross Country meets are unique when it comes to sporting events, for the

race starts and really only lasts for 18 continuous minutes. Guys put their necks on the line to race hard, making it one of the most difficult athletic performances. At city and state, Steeplechase provides an amazing environment for spectators to move between key points on the course to cheer the guys on. Quite honestly, it's a rush of adrenaline as an athlete and a spectator. Once you add the grilled food and the blaring music, I'm not sure you could find anything more exciting. It really means a lot to those competing, because the spectators truly have the

ability to change the race in our favor."

The Big Red Harriers enter this season with a lot of talent across the board, and the varsity roster is by no means set in stone. Coach Russ has placed an emphasis on how intrasquad competition helps make the team better. He's also highlighted the significance of taking those next few precautions to avoid injury, and he's very excited about having a healthy roster this season. And of course, he reminds the team daily, "It's a good day to run."



**TRAIL PUPS:** A shot of the 2016 Big Red Cross Country team from their training camp. Each year in early August, the team travels to Alpine Camp for three days of running and team bonding.



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## New Team, Same Dream (cont.)

to grab their attention. As is typically the case with football, it all starts up front, meaning that the Big Red will need linemen to step up and make an impact. Coach Euverard specifically sees Hamilton Garber and Josh Key as two seniors who need to play larger roles in order for the Big Red to succeed.

Euverard said, "[The returning skill players] have got to be big leaders. They have got to lead and bring on the offensive and defensive lines. The biggest thing to experience is reps. Our lines have to get reps, and that's why

**HUDDLE UP!** The defensive line, including Mac Lassing '17, huddles around Coach Chauvin during practice. The Big Red has been working consistently all summer to improve all areas of the team's game.



these scrimmages and practices are so crucial to those guys getting better. But you never are going to know until Friday night."

Luckily, MBA will have plenty of talent surrounding the front line on both sides of the ball. Along with the previously mentioned returnees, Gordon and Fenner Pollock bring experience to the defensive backfield that should help stabilize the inexperience up front.

The defense as a whole unit looks as if they have improved from last season. Senior safety Mac Lassing said,

"Everyone is just a step faster this year. The experience from last season helps provide more confidence."

Returning linebacker Brett Starr was among the defensive players pointed out by Coach Euverard as somebody who has stepped up as a leader. Starr and Lassing look to lead the defensive unit alongside Montgomery Owen and Micah Battle, both of whom will see time on each side of the ball. With the experience turning from last year's defensive unit, the Big Red expect to see a major leap in that aspect of the game.

MBA will begin the season with five straight home games, starting

August 19th against Hewitt-Trussville (AL). This season's schedule is full of familiar opponents as it is the same as last year. The only difference is that the locations of games are flipped, with the exception of Pearl Cohn, Melrose, and Hamilton. This schedule is to the Big Red's favor as they will play seven home games in the regular season and travel no further than Pope John Paul II.

As the program enters its 118th year and the school enters its 150th, Team 118 is looking to make previous teams proud by playing together, something the coaches have preached all summer.

Expect another exciting year of Big Red football this fall.

**Football Season Schedule**  
**August 19 Hewitt-Trussville H.S. (AL)**  
**August 26 Pearl Cohn H.S.**  
**September 2 Melrose H.S.**  
**September 9 Hamilton H.S.**  
**September 16 McCallie School**  
**September 23 @ Father Ryan H.S.**  
**September 30 @ Pope John Paul II H.S.**  
**October 7 Brantwood Academy**  
**October 21 Baylor School \***  
**October 28 @ Ensworth H.S.**

## Big Red Golf Team to Come Out Swinging

By Joe Spear  
 Assistant News Editor

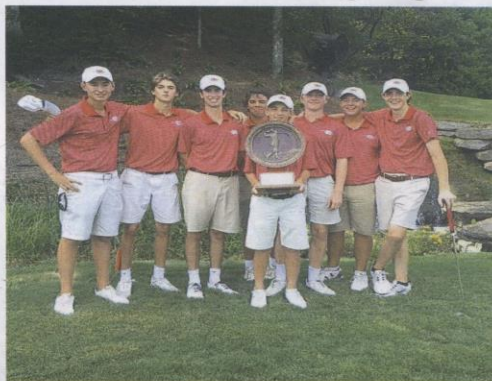
The Big Red Golf Team started off the year strong with successful summer practices, with the practice culminating in a true beatdown in their first match of the 2016 season against Ensworth on August 3rd and 4th.

Although the Big Red is missing three departed seniors from 2015, Connor Gray, Connor Downey, and Zachary Skaff, there have been several new key upperclassmen additions to the team. Haynes Lynch and Jack Crawford will join the team this year, along with incoming freshman Woodson

Weathersby. These three additions to the team will look to not only replace the departed seniors, but also hope to improve the team.

The upperclassmen leadership is strong this year with Cal Rieke being elected the team's captain, Max Davis returning for his final season, and juniors Alex McClellan, Josh Morris, and Manny Rogers all looking to lead the team this year as well. Although the Big Red Golfers did not win state last year, there are three golfers returning who have state experience, which provides the team with the key veteran leadership needed to succeed.

"We have a great group of super



**READY TO GO:** This year's Big Red golf team, led by returning senior Cal Rieke (third from left), looks to have a strong season.

talented guys this year," Cal Rieke said. "Everyone is completely focused on bringing the state championship back to the Hill."

By consensus of the golfers, it seems as if the toughest opponent this year will most likely be Father Ryan, as Baylor and McCallie both lost several seniors this year and both have relatively young teams. Several members of the team had some quotes for the readers. "If the

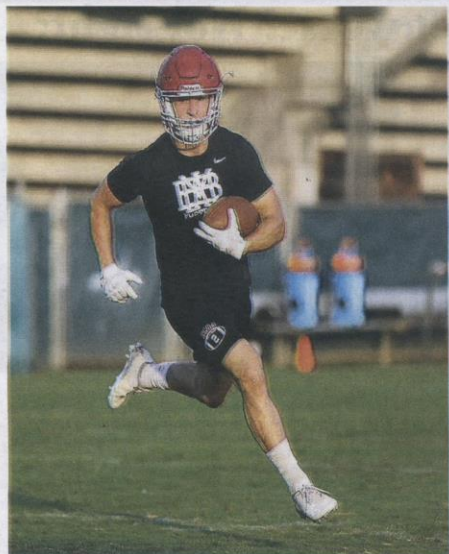
team performs at the levels everyone is capable of, we should have a very high shot at taking the state tournament. It is going to be a great year," said Josh Morris.

Alex McClellan declared that he would shave his eyebrows if the team did not take away the state title this year.

The Big Red Golfers are looking to have a strong season. Be on the watch.

**Golf Early Season Schedule (tentative)**  
**August 3rd Ensworth**  
**August 4th Ensworth**  
**August 9th Baylor Qualifier**  
**August 15th-16th Baylor Preview**  
**August 17 MBA Qualifier**  
**August 20th MBA Invitational**  
**August 27th Baylor**  
**September 8th McCallie**  
**September 15th Ensworth**  
**September 19th Division II Regions**  
**September 26th-27th State**





MONTGOMERY OWEN



MICAH BATTLE

## I Believe That We Will Win

*Pictures of the Big Red in Action*

JAKE EVANS



MAC LASSING





## Freshman Year: Can it get worse? No, right?

By Aden Barton  
Staff Freshman

Heading into high school, I think it's important that we look back at our junior school years and thank all of our teachers and mentors for preparing us for the next four grueling years. We couldn't have made it this far without all of your support.

Firstly, I want to thank all of the teachers that made it their personal goal to find students on their phones in Massey just so they could give them two demerits. I am certain that the high school teachers will care just as much about phone usage, and I am confident that no one in our grade will ever use their phone in a non-green zone after the multiple Mr. Simpson crackdowns. On the same note, a shout-out to Mr. Spiegl for walking around the exam room during the earth science exam, peering under desks and asking students to stand up just so he could give them "garden hours" for not wearing belts. Instead of answering questions, Mr. Spiegl seemed more interested in finding kids to weed his garden so he wouldn't have to do it himself. The valuable skill of gardening will follow the lucky few picked, which makes them

well-prepared for the hours of gardening in high school.

Secondly, thank you to Mrs. Stewart. You always supported our grade and said how we "were improving" even when it was clear that we were not. The high point of our grade's relationship with Mrs. Stewart was most definitely the 8th-grade meeting after somebody defaced the bathroom. Sitting there looking at that picture all together, we truly felt the sense of brotherhood that MBA is all about.

Going into high school sports won't be too easy for our grade, especially when you consider that debate is our grade's best sport. We have **Aden Barton** and **Thomas Zeuthen** to thank for that. We're all confident that our grade-A football team can be transformed under the coaching of Mr. Sawyer, just like in his wonderful English classes. Hopefully, **Ike Cravens** will keep on spiking, but as long as we have our star kicker **Owen Albright**, we should be fine.

As our grade gets bigger, I hope that all the new kids will feel as welcome as we did in seventh grade. The sense of brotherhood was palpable with all the Oak Hill kids (except **John Thornton**, of course) on one side of the room, and everyone else on the

other. We need to keep in mind this year's theme of empathy. I'm sure after every-one read the great all-school read, and we will be able to apply and discuss empathy in our everyday lives.

Academically, high school shouldn't be too difficult for our grade as long as we start preparing for exams right now. Mrs. Stewart already made a color-coded schedule, and if you follow it starting now, you probably won't have to go to summer school. If you need one, you can get an extra copy from **Nick Viars**. During study hall, try to not to Snapchat, but if you do, just make sure Mr. Simpson doesn't have the phone of the person you're snapping: **Will Farnier** and



**READY TO GO:** Aden Barton is the only freshman who stepped up to write a class news article. It is hoped that his articles will go over better with the class than those of the freshman news writer for the class of 2017.

**Noah Mendoza.**

The biggest change, of course, will be that now we can all join in taunting microbes during assembly. Maybe now when our baseball team goes up to make announcements they won't be taunted.

Good luck to all of you; you'll need it.



Because our ever-responsible friends in the Sophomore class wrote a news article that was too perfect to be fit for consumption by students of Montgomery Bell Academy, we have included an equally excellent cartoon by freshman Mickey Kelly, rising star of The Bell Ringer. Look for more of his cartoons in future issues.

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## Juniors Get Serious About School

By Joe Spear  
Staff Mountaineer

This summer, the Juniors got out of the house and helped the community, mainly for their college

**IMMERSION:** Several juniors (Alex Renkis, Joseph Hatcher, Michael Garcia, and Jack O'Brien) enjoying themselves in Poultney, Vermont, living it up, language style.



resumes and the possibility of meeting "girls" at one of these camps.

**Joseph Hatcher, Jack O'Brien, Alex Renkis, and Michael Garcia,** as seen in the picture below, studied their respective foreign languages

for a month in Poultney, Vt. Rumor has it that they may have spoken to "girls."

We are not quite sure what these are, but we will let you know when we find out.

Many other Juniors did this program, but these four wanted to post

something smart on their Instagram accounts, so here you have it. **Mike Miccioli** traveled to Stanford as a part of a science grant. There, Mike learned about cosmology and dominated in ultimate frisbee, per usual.

**Mr. William Kinard** had the most productive summer out of anyone in our grade by finishing all of his summer reading and projects within the first week of summer and by reading all of his textbooks before the school year starts. Count on a great, trouble-free year from William!

**Michael McGuire**, while still being a dedicated member of the football team, learned valuable computer skills through his grant to study at Vanderbilt, and we hope that he can now design a Snapchat filter for MBA (the school is counting on you, no pressure).

A Chinese television network interviewed **Ty Allen** for his incredible time at a 5k race in China this summer. Great work, Ty!

The McClellan boys also had an interesting summer, with our friend **Carter** deciding to take on a new life and become a coal miner. We're so proud of you!

**Mr. Tyson Briggs** traveled to Africa and got really high by summiting Mount Kilimanjaro and reaching 19,341 feet! Great job, Tyson!

**Larry Hayes** traveled to Rio De Janeiro to compete in the Olympics for swimming. If you've spent any time around Larry, we're sure he's told you plenty about how great of a swimmer he really is. Hope you didn't get any diseases, Larry!

We want also to give a shout-out to the football team for grinding hard at summer practice. We can't wait to see you guys out on the field this fall. Get hype for this year!

Most of all, we are all looking forward to a great academic year. Roll Red!

Upcoming events: The musical on August 31 through September 3—please come out and support the juniors who have been working hard on the play. A debate tournament—come out to at least one this year.

## Senior Do's and Don'ts for the 150th

By Major John Reisman and  
General Sam Worden  
Commanding Officers

Welcome back to school! The senior editors have taken it upon themselves to provide members of the senior class with a tentative list of do's and don'ts for your final year on The Hill. Keep these in mind as you go about your business for the next 180-ish days.

### Do's

• "Haze" underclassmen and lock down certain campus luxuries as unnecessary senior privileges to make up for the damage previous upperclassmen did to you, and hide your insecurities as a person because circular logic is a totally viable way of thinking

- Service
- High-five a microbe
- Your summer reading
- Read your Econ assignments
- Attend things—plays, concerts, and sports events; your classmates work hard in all areas
- Complete every page of your ACT prep book
- Your homework at home
- Get 5s on your AP exams



**THE DIRTY DOZEN:** We are your journalistic task force. Support *The Bell Ringer* by following us on social media and reading our print issues. When they come out. Contact the editors if you are interested in writing. Have a great year.

- See *Star Wars: Rogue One*
- Sing the MBA Alma Mater
- Follow *The Bell Ringer* on Twitter: @mbabellringer
- Write for *The Bell Ringer*
- Read *The Bell Ringer*

### Don't's

- Senior prank

- Break a door in Lowry
- Get paint on the stadium or campus
- Boo the refs
- Cut the cookie line at break
- Slide/lose your scholarship or acceptance in the last semester
- Start your college applications early

- Write a fresh and original college essay
- Make fun of the rifle team
- Become a fallen soldier after three to five strong years
- Ignore *The Bell Ringer*
- Publish *The Bell Breaker*



Mr. Quinn



1. Favorite Band of All Time - The Walkmen, Wilco, Avett Brothers
2. Favorite Album in High School - anything by Dave Matthews Band
3. Song that reminds you of College - "In the Aeroplane over the Sea" by Neutral Milk Hotel
4. Favorite Party/Dancing song - besides ABBA? Maybe some James Brown
5. Favorite Driving Song - "Tell It To Me," Old Crow Medicine Show
6. Song you belt shamelessly in the shower - "Ring of Fire," Johnny Cash
7. Best Concert You've Ever Been to - Bruce!
8. Instrument you don't already know how to play that you would master - trumpet

Dr. Tarkington



1. Favorite Band of All Time- Beatles and Rolling Stones (can't have one without the other)
2. Favorite Album in High School- *Let It Be* by the Replacements
3. Song that reminds you of College- Anything by Jane's Addiction, Pearl Jam, Widespread Panic, or Hank Williams, Jr.
4. Favorite Party/Dancing song- "Warm Beer and Cold Women" by Tom Waits (I don't dance)
5. Favorite Driving Song- "Scarlet Begonias" - Fire on The Mountain, Grateful Dead, Barton Hall, Ithaca NY, 5/8/77
6. Song you belt shamelessly in the shower- "My House" by Flo Rida
7. Best Concert You've Ever Been to- James Brown and the Famous Flames
8. Instrument you don't already know how to play that you would master- Drums like Charlie Watts; Piano like Bill Evans

Mr. Killian



1. Favorite Band of All Time - Modest Mouse
2. Favorite Album in High School - *Good News for People Who Love Bad News* by Modest Mouse
3. Song that reminds you of College - "Bruises" by Chairlift
4. Favorite Party/Dancing song - The Killers' "Mr. Brightside"
5. Favorite Driving Song - "Wake Up" by Arcade Fire
6. Song you belt shamelessly in the shower- "November Rain"
7. Best Concert You've Ever Been to- The Front Bottoms in New Haven, CT
8. Instrument you don't already know how to play that you would master- I've accepted that I'll never play an instrument, but I wish I were a better singer.

Dr. Boyd



1. Favorite Band of All Time- Queen
2. Favorite Album in High School- *OK Computer*
3. Song that reminds you of College - "Tom" by Natalie Imbruglia and "Millennium" by Robbie Williams
4. Favorite Party/Dancing song - "500 Miles" by the Proclaimers
5. Favorite Driving Song - "Wagon Wheel"
6. Song you belt shamelessly in the shower - A history teacher does not belt songs in the shower
7. Best Concert You've Ever Been to - Ingrid Michelson at the Ryman
8. Instrument you don't already know how to play that you would master- "Gee-tar"

## What are Your Favorite Teachers Listening to?

*Have you ever wondered what MBA valedictorians listened to in high school? How about the soundtracks of Naval pilots? Have you ever heard of a classics teacher who enjoys exclusively hip-hop? What do Irish folks sing in the shower? Does bluegrass go with excessive ingestion of tea and crumpets? Is Mr. Quinn as hipster as he appears? Don't worry, we've done the research for you.*

Mr. Calico



1. Favorite Band of All Time- Boston
2. Favorite Album in High School- *Synchronicity* by the Police
3. Song that reminds you of College - *Beds are Burning* by Midnight Oil
4. Favorite Party/Dancing song - "Groove is the Heart"
5. Favorite Driving Song - "Money" by Pink Floyd
6. Song you belt shamelessly in the shower - "Bohemian Rhapsody"
7. Best Concert You've Ever Been to - Robert Cray, 1994
8. Instrument you don't already know how to play that you would master - Spanish Guitar

Dr. Rader



1. Favorite Band of All Time- Wu-tang Clan
2. Favorite Album in High School- *All Eyes on Me* by Tupac
3. Song that reminds you of College - "Mo Money, Mo Problems"
4. Favorite Party/Dancing song - "P.Y.T." by Michael Jackson and "Erotic City" by Prince
5. Favorite Driving Song- "Controlla" by Drake
6. Song you belt shamelessly in the shower- "Work" by Rihanna
7. Best Concert You've Ever Been to - New Order
8. Instrument you don't already know how to play that you would master- Recorder

Mr. Kelly



1. Favorite Band of All Time- Blondie
2. Favorite Album in High School- *Dark Side of the Moon*
3. Song that reminds you of College- "Should I Stay or Should I Go" by the Clash
4. Favorite Party/Dancing song- "September" by Earth, Wind, and Fire
5. Favorite Driving Song- "Mack the Knife" by Bobby Darin
6. Song you belt shamelessly in the shower- "Love's Old Sweet Song" (traditional Irish tune)
7. Best Concert You've Ever Been to- Rolling Stones, Wembley, London
8. Instrument you don't already know how to play that you would master- Cow bell

Mr. Smyth



1. Favorite Band of All Time- Rolling Stones
2. Favorite Album in High School- *American Beauty* by the Grateful Dead
3. Song that reminds you of College - "Temperature" by Sean Paul
4. Favorite Party/Dancing song - "Good Times" by Jamie XX
5. Favorite Driving Song- "Blue Side of the Mountain" by the Steeldrivers
6. Song you belt shamelessly in the shower - "I Want You Back" by Jackson 5
7. Best Concert You've Ever Been to- Phish, 2001
8. Instrument you don't already know how to play that you would master- Keytar